

Message

From: Ketellapper, Victor [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DC60D6FD9A99422D902FC8AE9980C4C6-KETELLAPPER, VICTOR]
Sent: 11/4/2020 2:39:32 PM
To: Baker, Lorie [Baker.Lorie@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Site Assessment Tribal Coordination SOPs

Hi Lori,

Region 8 does not have any SOPs for tribal coordination. Generally, R8 treats our tribes as states and works with tribal environmental programs if we are conducting any site assessment program activities within tribal lands. At R8, the Brownfields program was very helpful in working with tribes, as Brownfields has grants with most tribes in the region and have established working relationships.

One thing that is unique with working with tribes is the consultation requirements. For site assessment, R8 has consulted with tribes on sites that have releases that may impact tribal lands or there are tribal treaty rights. For instance, at the Bonita Peak site, tribes downstream of the site were consulted regarding possible water quality impacts and their on-site treaty rights for hunting, fishing, and medicinal/sacred plant collection. Another example is the Dewey Burdock site. This site was evaluating abandoned uranium mines near the Black Hills of South Dakota, which is an area of great sacred importance to many tribes in the region. The site assessment program, working with the R8 Tribal Assistance program held informational conference calls that many tribes (it was over 20 tribes) participated.

I believe that Regions 6 and 9 have more robust tribal programs. Hopefully, you will hear from them.

Hope this helps. Contact me if you have any questions.

Victor

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Cc: Whittaker, Breana <whittaker.breana@epa.gov>

Subject: Site Assessment Tribal Coordination SOPs

Hi all,

We finally have federally recognized tribes in Region 3, and we are trying to come up with SOPs on how to coordinate with these tribes for site assessment activities. Instead of us re-inventing the wheel, we were hoping that other Regions more experienced in tribal coordination could help us out. Would any of you have site assessment-specific SOPs in place that you could share with us?

Thanks very much!

Lorie

Lorie Baker

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